

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the prior listing of claims in the application with the following listing of claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for growing and processing a legume fodder crop ~~(as hereinbefore defined) which includes co-locating a feed mill and a cane sugar mill and a sugar cane crop,~~ including the steps of:

- (a) providing ~~said~~ a cane sugar mill;
- (b) providing ~~said~~ a feed mill, said feed mill being located at[[/]] or adjacent to said cane sugar mill;
- (c) growing said legume fodder crop as a soil enhancing fallow crop for said sugar cane crop to be processed at said cane sugar mill;
- (d) delivering ~~with minimum delay,~~ freshly harvested legume fodder crop to said feed mill located at[[/]] or adjacent to said cane sugar mill;
- (e) processing the legume fodder crop to seek optimised cell breakage ~~and/or fiberisation (separation of fibre particles)~~ in the resultant shredded material[[.]] ~~depending on final product specifications as required;~~ and
- (f) drying the shredded material using heat supplied by the cane sugar mill or from by-products of the cane sugar mill to produce a dried animal feed material, suitable for long term storage.

2. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, including the further step:

- (g) mixing the dried material with suitable liquid binder(s) to produce a feed meal material of suitable moisture content as required for use.

3. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein:
in step (d), the freshly harvested crop is delivered to the feed mill in bulk using a transport system/infrastructure of the cane sugar mill.

4. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein:
in step (e), the harvested crop is shredded using heavy duty shredder/hammermill machines.
5. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein:
in step (e), juice from said legume fodder crop is extracted, concentrated, and stored in liquid concentrate tank(s).
6. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein:
in step (f), the shredded matter is dried using hot flue gas from the sugar mill boiler, or from a separate furnace fired with sugar cane bagasse either fresh from the cane sugar mill or from a stockpile.
7. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 6, wherein:
the dried shredded material is separated into coarse (stem) and fine (leaf) dry fibre fractions, which are optionally selectively recombined during later processing.
8. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein:
in step (g), the liquid binder(s) include molasses, juice concentrate and other suitable liquids to achieve the desired moisture content.
9. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein:
during, or after, step (g) other ingredients and additives, including vitamins, minerals, digestion improvers, antibiotics and other pharmaceuticals are added to increase the value of the feed meal material.
10. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein:
after step (g), the feed meal material undergoes further processing ~~such as~~ including pelletising, crumbling, granulation, agglomeration, pressure compaction, cubing, extrusion, moulding, tableting, briquetting, baling or bagging to suit the market requirements.

11. (Currently amended) A method for growing and processing a legume fodder crop ~~(as herein before defined) which includes co-locating a feed mill and a cane sugar mill and a sugar cane crop,~~ including the steps of:

- (a) providing ~~said~~ a cane sugar mill;
- (b) providing ~~said~~ a feed mill, said feed mill being located at ~~at~~ or adjacent to said cane sugar mill;
- (c) growing said legume fodder crop as a soil enhancing fallow crop for said sugar cane crop to be processed at said cane sugar mill;
- (d) delivering ~~with minimum delay,~~ freshly harvested legume fodder crop to said feed mill located at ~~at~~ or adjacent to said cane sugar mill;
- (e) processing the legume fodder crop to produce cut ~~and/or~~ shredded material; and
- (f) drying the cut ~~and/or~~ shredded material using heat supplied by the cane sugar mill or from by-products of the cane sugar mill to produce a dried animal feed material, suitable for long term storage.

12. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 11, including the further step:

- (g) baling the dried cut and/or shredded material (or hay).

13. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 11, wherein:
in step (e), the crop is processed using rotary knives to cut and/or shred the fibrous material.

14. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 12, wherein:
after step (g), the baled material (or hay) is outloaded or containerised for transport.

15. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 12, wherein:
at step (g), molasses is mixed with the dried material (or hay) to increase the nutritional value thereof.

16. (Currently amended) A method for growing and processing a legume fodder crop and a sugar cane crop to produce an animal feed product ~~which includes co-locating a feed mill and a cane sugar mill~~, including the steps of:

- (i) growing said legume fodder crop ~~(as hereinbefore defined)~~ as a soil-enhancing fallow crop for said sugar cane crop;
- (ii) harvesting the legume fodder crop;
- (iii) providing ~~said~~ a cane sugar mill;
- (iv) providing ~~said~~ a feed mill, said feed mill being located at ~~at~~ or adjacent to said sugar mill;
- (v) delivering ~~with minimum delay~~, freshly harvested legume fodder crop to said feed mill located at ~~at~~ or adjacent to said cane sugar mill;
- (vi) processing the legume fodder crop to seek optimised cell breakage ~~and/or fiberisation (i.e., separation of fibre particles)~~ in the resultant shredded material, ~~depending on final product specifications as required~~; and
- (vii) drying the shredded material using heat supplied by the cane sugar mill or from by-products of the cane sugar mill to produce an animal feed material.

17. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 16, including the further step:

- (viii) mixing the dried material with suitable liquid binder(s) to produce a feed meal material of suitable moisture content if required for use.

18. (Currently amended) A method for growing and processing a legume fodder crop and a sugar cane crop to produce an animal feed product ~~which includes co-locating a feed mill and a cane sugar mill~~, including the steps of:

- (i) growing said legume fodder crop ~~(as hereinbefore defined)~~ as a soil-enhancing fallow crop for said sugar cane crop;
- (ii) harvesting the legume fodder crop;
- (iii) providing ~~said~~ a cane sugar mill;
- (iv) providing ~~said~~ a feed mill, said feed mill being located at ~~at~~ or adjacent to said cane sugar mill;
- (v) delivering ~~with minimum delay~~, freshly harvested legume fodder crop to said feed mill located at ~~at~~ or adjacent said cane sugar mill;

(vi) processing the legume fodder crop to produce cut ~~and~~/or shredded material; and

(vii) drying the cut ~~and~~/or shredded material using heat supplied by the cane sugar mill or from by-products of the cane sugar mill to produce an animal feed material.

19. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 18, including the further step:

(viii) baling the dried cut and/or shredded material (or hay).

20. (Previously presented) A method for producing an animal feed product including the steps of:

(i) growing a legume fodder crop (as hereinbefore defined) as a soil-enhancing fallow crop for sugar cane;

(ii) harvesting the crop; and

(iii) processing the crop by the method claimed in Claim 1.

21. (Previously presented) A method for producing an animal feed product including the steps of:

(i) growing a legume fodder crop (as hereinbefore defined) as a soil-enhancing fallow crop for sugar cane;

(ii) harvesting the crop; and

(iii) processing the crop by the method claimed in Claim 11.